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# Natural Disaster Assistance for Missouri Citizens

## What To Do With Disaster Debris

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**1-800-361-4827**

Department of Natural Resources fact sheet

5/2003

### Wood and Vegetation

#### In urban areas

Wood may be mulched for on-site use if chippers are available.

Vegetative material may be disposed of in a permitted sanitary or demolition landfill if a state of emergency is declared.

Contact municipalities for information on local collection of this material or for centralized drop-off areas.

**Open burning** of wood may be permitted, although extreme caution is urged, due to possible gas leaks and other storm-related problems. Be sure to contact your local fire authorities prior to any burning. Some local authorities regulate open burning, so check with them first. **Burning will be allowed only with the approval of the local fire officials or emergency coordinator.**

#### In rural areas

Wood may be mulched if chippers are available.

Vegetative material may be disposed of in a permitted sanitary or demolition landfill if a state of emergency is declared.

Material may be **open burned**. To minimize impact on neighbors, start fires after 10 a.m. and discontinue burning by 4 p.m. **Burning will be allowed only with the approval of the local fire officials or emergency coordinator.**

Untreated wood and vegetation may be buried on site. The material should have a minimum two feet of clean cover.

### Tires

Tires must not be burned or buried on site. Tires should be cut into thirds and disposed of in a permitted sanitary landfill. Individuals or municipalities who accumulate more than 500 tires should contact the department's Solid Waste Management Program at 1-800-361-4827 or (573) 751-5401 for guidance. You also may contact a permitted waste tire hauler in your area. A list may be obtained from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources at the following Web address: [www.dnr.mo.gov/alpd/swmp/tirehaul.htm](http://www.dnr.mo.gov/alpd/swmp/tirehaul.htm).



## Dead Animal Disposal

Small accumulations of dead animals should be buried on site as soon as possible to reduce public health hazards and odor problems.

Large accumulations of dead animals will require special consideration. Contact one of the following offices:

State Veterinarian (Department of Agriculture), (573) 751-3377  
Public Health Veterinarian, (573) 751-6136  
Department of Natural Resources' Solid Waste Management Program, 1-800-361-4827  
or (573) 751-5401

## Household Debris

### Appliances

Appliances include clothes washers, dryers, water heaters, trash compactors, dishwashers, conventional ovens, ranges, stoves, woodstoves, air conditioners, refrigerators and freezers.

Appliances generated as a result of the storm can be disposed of in a sanitary landfill. Cities and counties are encouraged to coordinate collection of storm damaged appliances for collection, using their own public works vehicles or contract help. Cities and counties should establish centralized collection centers to accumulate damaged appliances. Refrigerants should be removed from air conditioners, freezers and refrigerators before recycling them or sending them to a landfill.

### Processing and Recycling for Residents and Business Owners

Individuals needing to dispose of damaged appliances should contact their local officials first for collection of drop-off information, either for recycling or disposal. In rural areas where local assistance is not available, individuals should contact scrap metal recyclers. The Department of Natural Resources' Solid Waste Management Program 1-800-361-4827 or (573) 751-5401 maintains a partial list of recyclers, and many are listed in the yellow pages of your local telephone directory.

## Structural Debris and Lumber

### In urban areas

- Contact municipalities for information on local collection of this material or the location of a centralized drop-off area.
- Material containing asbestos (transite siding, pipe, insulation), tires, and other materials that may generate toxic fumes (plastics, synthetic materials and shingles) should not be burned.
- **Open burning** of wood may be permitted, but extreme caution should be used because of possible gas leaks that could cause an explosion, and other storm-related problems. Local fire authorities should be contacted prior to any burning. Some local authorities regulate open burning, so please check with them first. Any wood that has been painted or treated should not be burned. **Burning will be allowed only with the approval of the local fire officials or emergency coordinator.**
- Material may be disposed of in a permitted sanitary or demolition landfill.

**In rural areas:**

- Material may be disposed of in a permitted sanitary or demolition landfill.
- Material may be **open burned** between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- Material may be buried on site using a minimum of two feet of clean cover.

FOR INFORMATION ON ASBESTOS REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL AND PERMITS FOR AIR CURTAIN DESTRUCTORS, CONTACT THE MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES' AIR POLLUTION CONTROL PROGRAM, 1-800-361-4827 or (573) 751-4817.

**Storm-Damaged Home Furnishings**

- Home furnishings including carpeting, draperies, linens, kitchenware, furniture and mattresses should be disposed of in a municipal solid waste landfill. Contact your local municipality about possible bulk collection.
- Because of toxic fumes, these items should NOT be open burned.

**For More Information Contact**

Missouri Department of Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 176  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176  
1-800-361-4827 or (573) 751-3443  
[www.dnr.mo.gov](http://www.dnr.mo.gov)